

Table of Contents (continued)**1455 The dynamic air bubble trap reduces cerebral microembolism during cardiopulmonary bypass**

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Neuropsychologic disorders are common after coronary artery bypass operations. Air microbubbles are identified as a contributing factor. Gaseous microemboli can be removed with a dynamic bubble trap. Subclinical cerebral injury detectable by increases of S100 β disappears earlier after the operation.

1461 MCI-186 prevents spinal cord damage and affects enzyme levels of nitric oxide synthase and Cu/Zn superoxide dismutase after transient ischemia in rabbits

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We demonstrated that MCI-186 administration protects the motor neurons of the spinal cord from ischemic injury. MCI-186 administration reduces the induction of nNOS and increases that of eNOS and Cu/Zn SOD. MCI-186 may be a strong candidate for use as a therapeutic agent in the treatment of ischemic spinal cord injury in the near future.

1467 Passive ventricular constraint to improve left ventricular function and mechanics in an ovine model of heart failure secondary to acute myocardial infarction

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This study investigated the effects of limiting progressive dilatation after infarction on cardiac function and myocardial energetics by means of a woven polyester cardiac support device. Passive constraint with the polyester cardiac support device prevented further remodeling and may stimulate reverse remodeling in heart failure secondary to acute myocardial infarction.

1477 Fibrillation in patients subjected to coronary artery bypass grafting

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Eighty-five patients undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) were randomized into ischemic preconditioning (IP) and control groups. Data from 24-hour electrocardiography were collected. IP significantly suppresses post-CABG atrial fibrillation (AF; 21.4% in IP group patients and 46.5% in control subjects, $P = .015$), suggesting that IP can be used as an effective prophylactic method for postoperative AF.

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